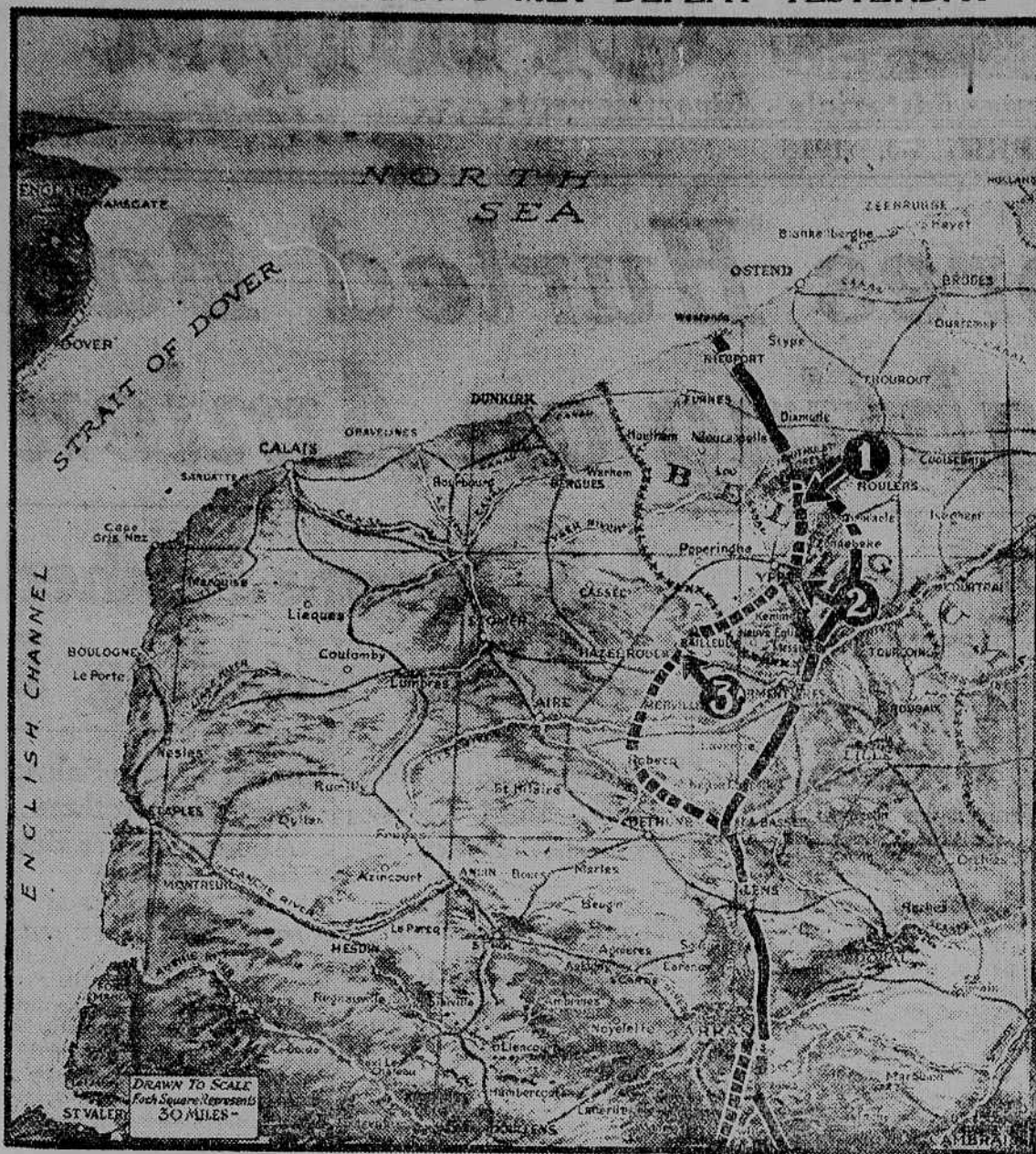


## The Great War—1370th Day

## WHERE THE GERMANS MET DEFEAT YESTERDAY



The Germans assaulted yesterday with great forces against the Belgians north of Ypres (1) and on the fourteen-mile front southeast, south and southwest of Ypres, held by the French and British between the arrows (2) and (3). The solid line shows the front before the offensive, the broken line the present front. There seems to have been no change in the line yesterday.

the afternoon the German command had nothing to show for his pre-tentious drive but a long list of dead and wounded.

Along the major portion of the front his troops have been held, and where they succeeded by superior weight of numbers in pushing forward they were soon ejected by counter drives. The Allied line was intact throughout at that hour.

The Germans pushed on between Scherpenberg and Mont Rouge. A counter attack by the French, however, gradually pushed the Germans back until Loere had been regained and the whole line reestablished. Meantime the British were holding with traditional valor, and not an inch did they allow the hard-hitting enemy, despite the fact that the defenders were greatly outnumbered.

One regiment which was holding a position astride the Kemmel-La Clytte road had repulsed four fierce attacks up to the time the correspondent left the front. In and out, the fighting continued at Oormeezel, at latest reports. The Germans made strenuous efforts to capture the place, but the British clung tenaciously to their posts and the best the enemy could claim was a footing in the hamlet.

On the Belgian front fortune was also with the defenders, for the Belgians in a spirited counter attack drove the enemy back after the latter had pushed in and secured a few advanced posts.

The hills were being continuously bombarded and Ypres was smothered with gas. German aviators were out in force to-day trying to bomb transport along the highways, but the British fliers were more than upholding their end of the defence. A number of fresh German divisions were engaged in today's battle, having been brought up during the night. The artillery, likewise, was heavily reinforced. The German casualties were exceedingly heavy. The fighting was still continuing with great fury at latest reports.

Prisoners captured have admitted that the German intention is to attempt to capture Ypres. The attack extended over a front of fifteen miles. German airplanes were out in great numbers at dawn, flying low over the chain of hills behind Kemmel, attempting to attack British troops and transport trains on the roads, as is usual preliminary to a battle.

After resting for four days in order to throw in fresh divisions and bring guns forward, the German Fourth Army opened an intense bombardment at about 3 o'clock this morning. The infantry attack was launched two hours later.

### Enemy Will Gain Little by Taking Ypres, Say Experts

WASHINGTON, April 29.—The battle for possession of the ruins of Ypres is regarded by officials here conversant with reports from American observers in France as only an incident of the German drive. They do not foresee, it was learned to-night, any extensive retirement of the British lines in this region, even if the high ground about it. But if it is lost, it is believed here, every inch of ground behind it will be as bitterly contested by the British and French troops as has each step forward the enemy has made for the last ten days. Even the whole Ypres salient, officers here think, has no strategic value which justified the assumption that its loss might force a general retreat over a wide front.

Should the rate of advance they have made for the last two weeks be maintained by the Germans, it is estimated, that it would take weeks for them to reach positions which seriously threatened the Allied hold on the Channel ports. Meanwhile, the strain of continuous offensive operations will

increase steadily upon the German forces, while it decreases correspondingly on the Allies with shortened communication lines to maintain. For this reason, many observers here believe the present situation, with the Germans steadily pounding and the Allies striking back wherever opportunity offers, may continue for some time. Unofficial reports from France have indicated three weeks as the time that might elapse before the Allies could regain the initiative.

So far as known, however, there is nothing of an official nature to indicate what General Foch, supreme commander, looks forward to in this regard.

### Foe's Time Table Of Victory Failed, Documents Show

LONDON, April 29 (to Reuters's Ottawa Agency).—An intense bombardment from artillery concentration is in progress from La Bassee to south of Houtholst Forest and from Vimy to Lens.

Last night there was intense and almost ceaseless hostile artillery activity in the north. Great concentrations

of howitzers and field batteries maintained a hurricane bombardment over wide sections of the Allied front.

This morning the bombardments were renewed on our line south of Voormezele, and the French position in the vicinity of Loere was plastered with explosive shrapnel.

Documents we recently captured show that the Germans counted on developing a regular drive toward the coast, the time table for which has altogether gone to pieces. A certain division was due to be at Mount des Cats on Friday last, but this division instead of going forward moved back to rest and reit.

Little doubt is entertained that the enemy, having failed to roll up the British army from Givenchy to Arras, has decided to strike northward for the coast with all his weight.

Reuters's correspondent at British headquarters says that whether the enemy attempts to carry the strongly defended hills by frontal attack or reduce them by a converging movement he will find the operation of the costliest kind.

Writers in London discuss the regretful possibility of the abandonment of Ypres, so long the leading buttress of the Allies and drenched with British blood as no other battlefield, but they emphasize that it is for Foch to decide whether it is too costly to hold or so vital that every effort must be made to recover the positions which the Germans are now threatening it. The conclusion drawn from the course of events is that Germany is far from achieving a quick decision and that we must expect heavy and continuous fighting all summer and fall.

### British Queen Sends Note of Cheer to Forces

LONDON, April 29.—Queen Mary has sent the following message to the army, navy and air forces:

"I am sending this message to tell every man how much we, the women of the British Empire, at home watch and pray for you during the long hours of these days of stress and endurance."

"Our pride in you is immeasurable, our hope is unbounded and our trust is absolute. You are fighting in the cause of righteousness and freedom, fighting to defend the children and women of our land from the horrors that have overtaken other countries, fighting for our very existence as a people at home and across the seas. You are offering your all; you hold back nothing, and day by day you have shown a love so great that no man can have greater."

"We on our part send forth with full hearts and unflinching will the lives we hold most dear. We, too, are striving in all ways possible to make the war victorious. I know that I am expressing what is felt by thousands of wives and mothers when I say that we are determined to help one another in keeping your homes ready against your glad homecoming. In God's name, we bless you, and by His help we, too, will do our best."

### Military Comment

By William L. McPherson

YESTERDAY'S news was the most cheering that has come in a long time from the Flanders front. It was the best since April 18, when the British communiqué announced the complete failure of a formidable German attack along the southern side of the Lys Valley salient.

A bigger and even better organized attack was repulsed yesterday on the north side of the salient. Standing with their "backs to the wall," as far as the defence of Ypres and the territory immediately north and east of it is concerned, the British and French beat back the Germans at all points of a line extending northeast from Meteren, one of the outposts of Hazebrouck, past Mount Rouge, Scherpenberg, La Clytte and Dickebusch Lake to Zillebeke Lake, just north of the village of Ypres, above Lange-marck, the Belgians also completely stopped a German advance intended to cut in behind Ypres on that side, and thus complete its envelopment.

The German general assault was preceded by intense artillery preparation. It was to be the finishing stroke in von Armin's campaign for Ypres—to crown the long series of local German successes at Bailleul, Neuve Eglise, Messines Ridge, Wytschaete, Wulverghem, St. Eloi, Dranoutre, Mount Kemmel and Loere.

But the Allies' lines held as firmly on this final test as the British First Army has held for the last three weeks at Givenchy, Festubert and along the southern line of the Lys Valley salient, covering Bethune. The French, who have retired from Loere and are now established on a line running from Mount Rouge to Scherpenberg, northwest of Loere, lost some ground. But they recovered it promptly by a counter attack. Ypres has been saved for the time being. Yet any dislocation of the Allied line from La Clytte to Zillebeke Lake—even a slight dislocation—will make Ypres and the remaining remnant of the Ypres salient untenable.

Yesterday's showing may serve to hearten those British newspapers which have been gloomily discounting the loss to the Germans of Dunkirk and Calais. It is a long way from Mount Kemmel to the Straits of Dover. If the Allies yield Ypres and retire to the west they will find a fair defensive line in front of Poperinghe. And there is a still stronger line further back, from Hazebrouck north to the Yser River.

The battle in Flanders is not a battle in which strategy counts for much. It is not a test of ability in maneuvering. It is a plain contest in physical and moral endurance—a problem in attrition. Infantry masses and driving power will determine the result; and since the Germans have no superiority in numbers on the Western front and have thrown many more divisions into the fight than the Allies have, the initial advantage accruing to them from their assumption of the offensive is being gradually neutralized.

The fight is essentially a fight to a finish—not for territory or military bases or seaports, but for moral supremacy. It has to go on. From the point of view of territory overrun and strategic advantages lost or won, it is better for the Allies to have it go on in the North, where only a strip of seacoast is affected, than further south, where a defeat would much more gravely endanger the cohesion of the British and French armies.

## German Rush For Channel Strikes Snag

Fresh Troops, Attacking Fiercely, Fail to Advance

Allies' Line at Givenchy Unshaken

Kemmel's Loss Serious, but Allies' Strategic Position Is Unchanged

By Caspar Whitney  
[Tribune Cable Service]

PARIS, April 29.—After the fiercest assaults by shock troops, increased by newly refreshed numbers, the German advance on the Channel ports stands practically where it did yesterday.

In the south the supreme effort to secure the important high ground around Villers-Bretonneux in the Amiens drive failed, notwithstanding the unrelenting attacks with reinforced, renewed divisions.

Givenchy, the gate to Bethune, has been sledgehammered by an added number of troops with the greatest ferocity, but it still stands unbroken, while the costly attempts to drive a wedge between the French and British has resulted only in a closer union and in a list of German casualties long enough to sober any general less reckless of men's lives than von Bernhardt. Although the loss of Kemmel was serious, yet the strategic position of the Allies remains unchanged. It was probably strengthened by the retention after brilliant fighting of the village of Loere, lying in the valley between Kemmel and Rouge and standing in the way of a further German advance.

Hills Extend Twenty Miles

To follow intelligently the great struggle in Flanders, which will last many weeks, one should understand that the broken chain of hills barring German progress to the coast rises out of the plains five miles south of Ypres and Poperinghe and between them and Hazebrouck, the same distance south of the hills. This chain extends twenty miles, from near the Ypres-Comines canal on the east, to Mount Cassel on the west, with a centre group 300 feet high, the Mont de Cat at the western end, Mount Rouge at the eastern extreme, while Kemmel and Cassel are isolated hills separated from the eastern and western ends of the chain by distances of five miles, respectively, of rolling country.

The penetration of these disconnected hills to the north, the capture of Ypres, or cutting the line of communication with Calais at Poperinghe and taking Hazebrouck Junction is the German endeavor in this sector and explains Ludendorff's persistence and the price he appears to be willing to pay.

Kemmel Not Essential

Important, however, as Kemmel is, it was not essential to Allied success. Should the Boche hold it, the Allies hold other positions on the chain which oppose and will eventually halt him. Loere is the first of these beyond which the Boche cannot pass with a very heavy loss, from which even a German commander may shrink. Although it is unwise to minimize the seriousness of the loss of such an important key position in this area, it is necessary, to obtain a proper perspective of the battle, to consider the contributing elements—the price paid, the loss of the Allies, and the vantage ground which still remains in their hands.

The German encircling movements have been made possible by the greatly larger forces and the entire disregard of loss of life. The enemy secured Kemmel by advancing on the flanks and from the front in overwhelming strength and leaving his dead in almost a carpet on the hillsides, from which the French retreated only after a heroic defence and deadly execution.

Although the hill gives observation over the Ypres area, the Allies are strongly placed to the west and north and are growing stronger as the amalgamation of the British and French improves and the American forces prepare to enter.

That the Germans were obliged to call now, fresh divisions to secure this foothold indicates the quality of the Allied resistance and the speed with which the Germans are using up their reserves. The Allies' plan to make the Germans pay the highest price for every mile they advance at a minimum cost to themselves, should be weighed in the balance with all local Boche successes.

Despite such gains those who are in a position to judge with some accuracy feel that the German flood is spending itself on the Allies' byways and that although even heavier onslaughts are certain and perhaps further local success possible it is not too optimistic to say that its rage is unavailing to reach the main objective.

German Seek Finish Fight

That the Boches are willing to sacrifice life so ruthlessly both in the line and behind it through the Allies' valor on the ground and their daring and consummate skill in the air suggests the enemy's desperate determination on a decision, the bringing nearer of the day of his exhaustion and the disclosure of Poch's stroke with a strategic reserve army practically intact.

Yet the gravity of the situation is not to be blinked at. The Germans still have many reserve divisions which will last a long time, even at the rate they are being used at present. More and more the question of the hour becomes one of man power as the battle settles to exhausting the foe and yet surviving with enough strength to deliver a knockout in this test of endurance.

On this basis the Allied campaign is being conducted. In the final effort victory will go to the side with the last reserves, and on America now rests the responsibility of putting that last smashing blow within the power of the Allies.

## The Official Statements

LONDON, April 29.—Field Marshal Haig's reports from headquarters in France to-day said:

NIGHT—Following a bombardment of great intensity, the French and British positions from the neighborhood of Meteren to Zillebeke Lake were violently attacked this morning by large hostile forces.

Attacks were made also upon the Belgian positions north of Ypres, and fighting of great severity developed rapidly on the whole Allied front. The 25th, 49th and 21st British divisions completely repulsed every attempt made by the enemy to enter their positions, and despite a constant succession of determined attacks in great strength maintained their line intact. The enemy's losses have been very heavy.

The French positions on the hills about Scherpenberg and Mont Rouge also were heavily attacked, and the enemy was repulsed. At points where the enemy's infantry succeeded in penetrating a short distance into the French positions they were immediately driven out by counter attacks from the greater part of the ground which they had temporarily gained possession of.

On the Belgian front the attacks also were repulsed after sharp fighting, in which severe casualties were inflicted on the enemy.

The fighting still continues at certain points along the Allied battlefronts.

On the remainder of the British front there is nothing to report beyond the usual artillery activity on both sides. The weather prevented air operations Sunday.

DAY—The hostile attack reported developing yesterday afternoon in the neighborhood of Loere was repulsed by rifle and machine gun fire.

A heavy bombardment with high explosive and gas shells was opened by the enemy this morning on the whole front from Meteren to Voormezele, and infantry attacks are now developing.

The hostile artillery has also shown great activity during the night from the River Scarpe to Lens and between Givenchy and the Forest of Nieppe.

By a successful enterprise carried out by us last night the post in the neighborhood of Festubert captured by the enemy on the night of April 26-27 was retaken by us, together with over fifty prisoners.

A number of prisoners and four machine guns were also secured by us in successful raids south of Albert and in the neighborhood of Neuville-Vitasse.

### Repulsed Attempt to Cross Oise, Says Paris

PARIS, April 29.—The War Office announcements to-day follow:

NIGHT—Both armies were active north and south of the Aisne in the region of Fismes. An enemy detachment which attempted to cross the Oise east of Varennes was dispersed. In the Vosges we repulsed a raid on one of our small posts in the Linge sector.

Two enemy airplanes were brought down on April 27. The same day our bombing planes dropped 6,000 kilos of projectiles on establishments in the enemy zone.

DAY—During the night the Germans attempted several times to attack the French positions in Hangard Wood. Our fire checked all their efforts. There was great activity of the artillery on both sides between Villers-Bretonneux and the Luce River and in the region between Lassigny and Noyon.

A German raid north of Grivemer was without result. French detachments penetrated the German lines in the vicinity of Corbeny, near Courcy, on the right bank of the Meuse, and in Upper Alsace, bringing back prisoners. There was very heavy artillery firing at Fosses Wood and Courleres Wood (Verdun front).

### Prisoners Increased to 7,100, Berlin Reports

BERLIN (via London), April 29.—German General Headquarters to-day gave out the following:

DAY—On the Flanders battlefield from midday on the artillery fire revived. The booty taken since the storming of Mount Kemmel was increased to over 7,100 prisoners, including 181 officers, 53 guns and 233 machine guns.

Between La Bassee Canal and the Scarpe, as well as north of the Somme, there has been lively reconnoitring activity on the part of the English. Strong partial attacks made by the French against Hangard Wood and village were sanguinarily repulsed. Forefield engagements occurred at many points on the remainder of the front. On the eastern bank of the Meuse a thrust into the French trenches brought in some prisoners.

## Kaiser Viewed Kemmel Battle From Advanced Field Position

AMSTERDAM, April 29.—Emperor William watched the battle for Kemmel Hill on April 25, says the correspondent at the front of the Berlin "Lokal-Anzeiger."

"As early as 6 o'clock," the corre-

spondent telegraphs, "his majesty posted himself on an advanced field position which gives a view over the range of heights southwest of Ypres and which in the early morning light positively shook under the roar of our

## Friend and Foe Are Watching

OUR boys in the trenches are watching the Loan—as the measure of our support. Our Allies are watching the Loan—as an evidence of the strength of our purpose. Our enemies are watching the Loan—to see what spirit is back of our national pledge, "Force to the utmost, force without stint or limit!"

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tremendous gun fire. This thunderous gun chorus, the gleam of falling shells in the still misty uplands, the thick lines of smoke which lay like dark bars across the horizon—all presented a stupendous picture of a modern battle.

"Every stage of the battle—the advance of the rolling curtain of fire, the storming of the infantry and the ebbing of the fire—could be exactly followed. Gradually the wires brought the first news announcing the success. The Emperor, who was surrounded by the suite of the commander of one of the armies, personally marked all the results on the maps. He remained absorbed in the contemplation of the war picture until the late afternoon. Then, returning to headquarters, he reviewed two divisions which had especially distinguished themselves."

Emperor William, according to a Berlin dispatch, has addressed the following manifesto to Dr. von Hertling, the Imperial Chancellor:

The Reichsbank report for 1917 shows the splendid state of our money market and the strength of the resistance of our economic life, which fills me with proud joy, and I should like to express my appreciation to all concerned.

This unparalleled success we certainly owe above all to victories which the Divine Grace has bestowed upon our leaders and upon the fighters of our army and fleet. They are the foundation of strong confidence in the invincible strength and future of the Fatherland which, as the eighth war loan has proved, fills all classes of the population.

Apart from that, however, it is possible to conduct our Reichsbank, which, together with the efficiency and patriotic spirit of all concerned, has furnished the strong backbone which has enabled us to raise the necessary war cost.

I am glad to be able to express this, coming fresh from the battlefield and under the impression created by our irresistible advance. We are conquering militarily and economically, and we have before us, though not an easy, a strong future.